

REMARKS

Claim 1 is the base claim of allowable claim 5. Claim 1 has been amended to include all the limitations of allowable claim 5, which latter claim has accordingly been deleted.

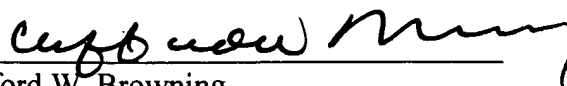
Claim 1 has been further amended slightly to clarify that the first inspection device is designed for “detecting image data of a surface of the front side of the sheets under reflected light”, that the second inspection device is designed for “detecting image data of a surface of the rear side of the sheets under reflected light”, and that the third inspection device is designed for “detecting image data of the sheets under transmitted light”.

These clarifications are supported by the present specification, as filed, where it is clearly explained that the three inspection devices are designed to carry out inspection by reflection of the front side of the sheets, inspection by reflection of the rear side of the sheets, and inspection by transmission of the sheets, respectfully (see the Figures and paragraphs [0054] to [0056] of the A1 publication).

It is submitted that amended claim 1 should now be allowable, since it now includes all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 5.

Reconsideration of the present application is therefore respectfully requested, followed by an allowance of amended claims 104 and 6-27, over all the prior art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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